



INSIDE



SPORTS

- Lady Tigers upset Holy Spirit, **A16**
- Wrestlers prepare for groups, **A16**
- Boys b-ball makes most of home court, **A16**
- Lou Rodia: Crabbing fun in past and present, **A16**
- Fishing report: Winter makes surf tough, **A16**
- CAPE MAY**
- Send love with a singing valentine, **A3**
- Students help animals in need, **A4**
- North Cape May man arrested for assault, **A5**
- Check out local events and programs, **A5,7,14**
- LOWER TWP.**
- Resolution officially removes manager, **A5**

WEATHER ALMANAC BY WAYNE ROOP

JANUARY (Normals: 42°/28°, 3.53")			
	High	Low	Precip.
22	40°	25°	
23	46°	24°	
24	46°	25°	
25	32°	17°	
26	30°	24°	
27	31°	27°	.29/2.5"
28	47°	31°	.60"

Mayor Mahaney: Monzo as two-town solicitor a conflict

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Cape May Mayor Edward Mahaney said he was disappointed to learn city solicitor Anthony Monzo had accepted a job as solicitor for neighboring Lower Township.

On Tuesday Mahaney said he had two discussions with Monzo in the last several weeks about him accepting the position of solicitor in Lower

Township while serving in the same capacity for Cape May.

"I believe it would create a conflict of interest," he said.

Mahaney said in the event a conflict arose, the city would have to hire special counsel, which would increase costs.

Mahaney said he believed the rules of professional conduct dictated that Monzo not take solicitor jobs in adjacent municipalities. At the end of

their discussions, Mahaney said, he and Monzo agreed to disagree.

Mahaney then referred to two legal cases the city is involved in, one a case against the Remington, Vernick and Walberg Engineering firm, and the other a suit filed by former City Manager Lou Corea.

"I felt that both matters should have been handled in a more timely manner and some preventative measure should have been taken to limit the

damage," Mahaney said.

Mahaney said his comments Tuesday concerned Monzo's performance in those two cases.

"They are related in the sense that if he's going to represent two municipalities which are very active in terms of municipal business, his time will be constrained, and I brought up these two cases as examples."

Please see Solicitor, page A2

New ways to budget?

Running city like a utility is one option, TPA says

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The Taxpayers Association of Cape May wants city government to look at other ways of budgeting and funding municipal services, such as charging for services based on use.

Dennis Crowley addressed Cape May City Council Tuesday, giving a PowerPoint presentation prepared by the TPA. Crowley said the TPA has been looking at the municipal budgets for a number of years and has concluded the city has to move away from the traditional methods of budgeting and raising revenue for city services.

Crowley said rather than raising property taxes, TPA is recommending looking at who is using city services and who benefits from the services.

The report recommended the city create a three-tiered service model:

- essential stakeholders
- shared by essential stakeholders and the extended population
- the extended population.

"You could probably identify the services only essential stakeholders use and find the differential," Crowley said.

The TPA report indicated tourism accounts for about \$292 million of the Cape May economy. In one model, the cost of services to support the tourism economy would be charged back to those who use or benefit from the services.

"The public utility is a model. The cost is born by the users and maintaining the infrastructure is spread out among the users," he said.

Crowley said Cape May has a declining population, and for much of the year, over half the dwelling units are unoccupied. He said 66 percent of the homeowners have a primary residence in the four surrounding states or elsewhere in New Jersey.

"Only 25 percent of Cape May homeowners live here," he said.

Crowley said it was time to consider more

Please see Budgeting, page A2

There are a lot of needs not being met by traditional budgeting.

–Dennis Crowley



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Talent showcased at LCMR

Lower's Jazzi Unrah sings "Pressure" at the Winter Talent Showcase on Thursday, Jan. 29, at Lower Cape May Regional High School. Below, Colby Halbruner plays drums. For more photos, see page A13.



Connecticut man killed in LT crash

LOWER TOWNSHIP – A Connecticut man was killed and his wife injured in an afternoon crash Jan. 31 at Jonathan Hoffman and Seashore Roads.

John McAdams, 83, was pronounced dead on arrival at the Cape Regional Medical Center, and his wife Barbara McAdams, 80, was airlifted to the Atlantic City Medical Center with head and body injuries.

Police said the McAdamses were traveling east on Jonathan Hoffman road at around 1:20 p.m. when they collided with a vehicle heading south on Seashore Road. The driver of the second car, Mildred Chew, 77, of West Cape May, was transported to Cape Regional Medical Center with head injuries.

When officers arrived on the scene Mr. McAdams was conscious and talking, but within minutes stopped breathing.

Officers Edward Edwards and Brian McEwing forced open the passenger side door to help Mrs. McAdams from the vehicle while Officer Donald Vanaman administered rescue breathing. Officers and firemen continued CPR until MedCom paramedics arrived.

Lower Township police requested assistance from the Cape May Police Department and the Delaware River and Bay Authority Police for traffic assistance. Traffic on the Seashore Road Bridge going over the canal was closed while the accident victims were attended to. Traffic was diverted for about three and a half hours while members of the Lower Township Fatal Accident Investigation Team, the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office and the North Wildwood officers from the county's Fatal Accident Team investigated the accident.

The investigation revealed Mr. McAdams failed to yield the right of way to the vehicle driven by Chew and pulled out in front of her. Police said family members contacted in Connecticut said the McAdams were traveling to North Carolina and family members or contacts in Lower Township.

Outdoor flea market proposed at Cape May County Airport

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP – A township resident asked Lower Township Council to consider amending its ordinances to allow him to establish an open air flea market at the Cape May County Airport.

Lou Ginsberg, who lives across Breakwater Road from

the airport, said in these tough economic times people could benefit from a wholesale market. Ginsberg said he would like to establish something along the lines of U-Sell in Vineland, and he would offer free space to non-profits.

"I want to make it a class act," he said. "I want to make it family friendly, a place for

children to go."

Ginsberg said he is looking at renting space to 60-80 vendors, but would not rent space to people selling "smut magazines," for example.

Since that issue was brought up, Township Zoning Officer Bill Galestock said the airport complex was zoned for adult-oriented use. He said the township had to

create such a zone or the entire township would be open to such uses.

Township solicitor Anthony Monzo said the township could not ban adult materials from being sold, but the owner/operator of the wholesale market would be free to do so.

Ginsberg said he already has a request for quotes on a

steel or aluminum pavilion for the vendors. He said he believed having a wholesale market in the airport complex would probably give a boost to other businesses and features inside the airport, including the Naval Air Station Museum and the Vietnam Veterans museum.

Ginsberg said he would like to get the project up and run-

ning by May, but that would depend on how much red tape he would encounter.

Galestock said from a zoning aspect Ginsberg would need to present a site plan and request a use variance.

Asked how long the market would operate each year, Ginsberg said they were look-

Please see Flea, page A2

Possibility of new vending spot turns up heat with local eatery

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – City Manager Bruce MacLeod proposed several changes to the ordinance regulating street vendors in Cape May. The measure was supported by hot dog vendors and opposed by one local restaurant.

The city allows street vending at seven locations along Beach Avenue. By state statute, military veterans and volunteer firemen are permitted to work as vendors on municipal streets and beaches, but the city can regulate the locations.

At the heart of the disagreement is the proposal to put a designated

vending spot at Second Avenue and the Beach. Previously, vending had been permitted on Second Avenue 75 feet from Beach Avenue. The vendors proposed eliminating a designated location at Wilmington Avenue and establishing one at Second Avenue.

The Johnston family, owners and operators of the Cove Restaurant, have opposed the move because they say the area is congested with traffic. In addition, they believe the municipal government is making changes to the ordinance to accommodate a few, while compromising their business.

The Johnstons have told city council their business is assessed

over \$15,000 per year in real estate taxes and user fees, and now the city is trying to create an unfair playing field.

"The economy is bad and now we have to deal with competition that doesn't have to pay anything," Ed Johnston said.

Vendor Tony Genaro said he doesn't see the hot dog vendors as

competition to a restaurant with seating and table service.

"We just offer hot dogs, chips and a drink. We don't conflict with other businesses," he said.

Johnston said 40 to 45 percent of his business is takeout, so there is a conflict. He said the street vendors also sell much more than hot dogs.

Bud McDunnough said a spot des-

ignated on the beach side of Beach Avenue would be much safer than allowing a spot on Second Avenue, where people would have to cross the street to make purchases.

But Susan Johnston said when the ordinance was created in 2006,

Please see Vendor, page A2

Continued from page A1

The owners and operators of Cove Restaurant feel the new vending spot will hurt their business. Vendors maintain they 'just offer hot dogs, chips and a drink' and business won't conflict.